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News Release

BLM Colorado

NEWS RELEASE

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Fire restrictions begin Saturday for BLM lands in Eagle, Garfield and Pitkin counties

SILT, Colo. – Stage 1 fire restrictions begin April 11 for all Bureau of Land Management administered lands in Eagle, Garfield and Pitkin counties. The restrictions align with local orders and guidelines to protect public health and safety while resources are focused on responding to the pandemic.

Under Stage 1 restrictions:

- campfires are only allowed within designated fire grates in developed campgrounds (i.e. a metal, in-ground containment structure -- fire pans and rock campfire rings are not acceptable)
- no fires of any type including charcoal outside of developed areas
- no smoking except within an enclosed vehicle or building, a developed recreation site or in a barren area free of vegetation
- no use of explosive materials, including explosive targets
- no welding or operation of an acetylene or other similar torch with open flame except from an area that has been cleared of vegetation
- no operation of any internal combustion engine without a spark arresting device properly installed and in working order

Fire restrictions on these lands will be in place until further notice. Violation of federal fire restrictions is punishable by a fine of not more than \$100,000 or imprisonment for not more than 12 months or both. Those found responsible for starting wildfires will also face restitution costs of suppressing the fire.

Fireworks are always prohibited on BLM, National Forest and National Park Service lands. More information about fire prevention is available at: <https://www.blm.gov/programs/public-safety-and-fire/fire-and-aviation/get-involved/fire-prevention>.

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